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Report of the Special Committee to Recommend an Ombudsman Appointment. 197 1
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

TO RECOMMEND AN OMBUDSMAN APPOINTMENT

A. On October 30, 1973 the Assembly passed a motion appointing a Special Committee for the purpose of inviting applications for the position of Ombudsman and to recommend to the Assembly the applicant it considers most suitable for appointment to that position.

B. The Committee was composed of Miss Hunley, Dr. Buck and Messrs. Cookson, Hyndman, McCrae and Wilson. I am grateful to all members of the Committee for their willing cooperation and objective judgment, and for the deep sense of responsibility which they brought to all our deliberations.

C. In November and early December 1973, your Committee arranged for advertisements to be published in seven Alberta newspapers and 16 other newspapers circulating in major Canadian population centres outside Alberta.

D. Your Committee met on eight occasions. A total of 182 applications were submitted in response to the newspaper advertisements -- 40 from Alberta, 62 from other locations in Western Canada, 76 from Eastern Canada and the Maritimes, and 4 from Canadian citizens resident in the United States. Twenty-one personal interviews were conducted by your Committee -- nine in Toronto and twelve in Edmonton.

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E. Some of the more important attributes sought by your Committee in assessing the applicants were:

* A knowledge of Alberta and its people, both urban and rural.
* Practical experience in and a broad exposure to life generally.
* Qualities of determination, patience, "horse sense", tact, stamina and wide experience in helping people in trouble in an objective way.
* An ability to distinguish between natural justice and legal justice, coupled with an understanding of the place of laws and regulations in our society.
* An ability to communicate clearly and cogently, and a working knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
* A trained mind with a knowledge of or an ability to acquire an understanding of law and investigatory procedures.
* A knowledge of good business and administrative practice.

F. After a careful assessment of all the applications and personal references where appropriate, and after conducting intensive "face to face" interviews with 21 applicants, and following thoughtful consideration of the implications of the task given to the Committee by the Assembly, your Committee recommends the following applicant as the person most suitable for appointment to the position of Ombudsman for the Province of Alberta:

RANDALL EUGENE IVANY

The Committee is unanimous in this recommendation.

Lou Hyndman

Lou Hyndman, Chairman
On behalf of the Committee

THE VERY REVEREND RANDALL EUGENE IVANY
B.Eng., L.Th., B.Th., D.D.

Dr. Ivany is 41. He was born in the fishing outport of Port Rexton in Newfoundland. His father was a Grand Banks fisherman and a carpenter. In 1945, when he was 12, the family moved to Toronto where he completed high school in 1951. For the next seven years he worked in sales and estimating for Canadian Westinghouse Co. Ltd. in Toronto and Hamilton. During this time he studied Engineering at night school and, by the apprenticeship route through a college and McMaster University, received a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in 1958.

From 1958 to 1961 he pursued studies in Theology at Wycliffe College, University of Toronto. In 1960 he served on a summer mission in Carbon, Acme and Three Hills, Alberta.

After obtaining two Theology Degrees and Ordination, he became Rector, in 1961, of two churches in what then were the towns of Bowness and Montgomery outside Calgary. At that time he was also the Chaplain of the Wood's Christian Homes and of the Baker Sanatorium in Calgary.

For the next five years, from 1963 to 1968, he was Rector of St. Luke's Church in Red Deer, as well as being Honorary Chaplain of the Red Deer Junior College and an Executive Member of the Red Deer Y.M.C.A..

During the winter of 1968/69 he was Interim Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

In 1969 he came to All Saints' Anglican Cathedral in Edmonton. A year later he was appointed Dean and Rector of that Cathedral.

The Edmonton Council of Churches elected him as their Vice President in 1971; last year he was President of that inter-denominational Council. Also in 1973, he received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Toronto.

He is a member of the Planning Advisory Committee of the Alberta Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled.

He initiated the concept and has been piloting the development of a Senior Citizens' High Rise to be built on Cathedral property on 103 Street south of Jasper Avenue in Edmonton. Over past months he has been closely involved with the planning, design, and financing of this $2.5 million community project.

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Dr. Ivany's wife is a Toronto girl. They have three children -- Lynn, age 15, Kathryn, age 13 and Mary, age 5.

Dr. Ivany enjoys fishing (especially in the mountains), and also photography and writing. He knows Edmonton and Calgary, and likes to travel, and especially enjoys visiting with people in the smaller centres and rural areas of the province.